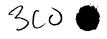


12-10-2001

U.S. Patent & TMOfc/TM Mail Rcpt Dt. #76

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December 5, 2001

ATTN: MISSING PARTS FEE

Commissioner for Patents & Trademarks 2900 Crystal Drive Arlington, VA 22202-3513

Re:

U.S. Application Serial No. 09/975,474 filed October 11, 2001, entitled: "ESRP

Enhancements" (Our Ref. ONF100/4-CONUS)

Dear Sirs:

Enclosed for filing in connection with the above-referenced application are:

- 1. Transmittal Letter;
- 2. Response to Notice to File Missing Parts of Nonprovisional Applications;
- 3. Check in the amount of \$65; and
- 4. Return postcard to acknowledging receipt of these documents. Please date stamp and mail this postcard upon receipt.

Should any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 to 1.21 be deemed necessary for any reason relating to the enclosed materials, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct said fees from VINSON & ELKINS L.L.P. Deposit Account No. 22-0365.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew G. DiNov

Reg. No. 40,115

Enclosure
Austin:232540 1



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Paul Niezgoda, et al.

Serial No.: 09/975,474

Filed: October 9, 2001

SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR ON-LINE PROFESSIONAL SERVICE PROVIDERS REFERRAL AND RANKING

Group Art Unit: 2661

Examiner: Unknown

Atty. Dkt. No.: ONF100/4-1CONUS

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING 37 C.F.R 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on the date below:

Dec. 5, 2001

Date

Debbie Berroth

RESPONSE TO NOTICE TO FILE MISSING PARTS

ATTN: MISSING PARTS FEE

Commissioner for Patents & Trademarks 2900 Crystal Drive Arlington, VA 22202-3513

Sir:

Responsive to the Notice to File Missing Parts of Nonprovisional Application dated November 13, 2001, a copy of which is enclosed herewith, and in compliance with 37 CFR 1.63, attached is a copy of the Declaration filed in the priority patent Application Serial No. 09/952,284 filed September 12, 2001, which was incorporated by reference.

A check in the amount of \$65.00 accompanies the filing of this Response. Should any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be deemed necessary for any reason relating to

these materials, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct said fees from Vinson & Elkins

L.L.P. Deposit Account No. 22-0365/ONF100/4-1CONUS.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew G. DiNovo

Reg. No. 40,115 Attorney for Applicant

Vinson & Elkins L.L.P. 2300 First City Tower 1001 Fannin Houston, Texas 77002-6760 512/495-8446

Date:

December 5, 2001

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TES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231 www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NUMBER

FILING/RECEIPT DATE

FIRST NAMED APPLICANT

ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER

09/975,474

10/11/2001

Paul Niezgoda

ONF100/4-CONUS

CONFIRMATION NO. 9742

FORMALITIES LETTER OC0000000070539141

VINSON & ELKINS L.L.P. 2300 FIRST CITY TOWER 1001 FANNIN STREET HOUSTON, TX 77002-6760

Date Mailed: 11/13/2001

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NOTICE TO FILE MISSING PARTS OF NONPROVISIONAL APPLICATION

FILED UNDER 37 CFR 1.53(b)

Filing Date Granted

An application number and filing date have been accorded to this application. The item(s) indicated below, however, are missing. Applicant is given TWO MONTHS from the date of this Notice within which to file all required items and pay any fees required below to avoid abandonment. Extensions of time may be obtained by filing a petition accompanied by the extension fee under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

- · The oath or declaration is missing. A properly signed oath or declaration in compliance with 37 CFR 1.63, identifying the application by the above Application Number and Filing Date, is required.
- To avoid abandonment, a late filing fee or oath or declaration surcharge as set forth in 37 CFR 1.16(I) of \$65 for a small entity in compliance with 37 CFR 1.27, must be submitted with the missing items identified in this letter.
- The balance due by applicant is \$ 65.

The application is informal since it does not comply with the regulations for the reason(s) indicated below.

The required item(s) identified below must be timely submitted to avoid abandonment:

Abstract must be on a separate sheet.

:2/17/2001 AWDNDAF1 00000008 09975474 A copy of this notice <u>MUST</u> be returned with the reply. Customer Service Center Initial Patent Examination Division (703) 308-1202 PART 2 - COPY TO BE RETURNED WITH RESPONSE